

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING JENELL SULLIVAN

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jenell Sullivan for her outstanding dedication and service to the State of Ohio.

Jenell has proudly served the Republican Caucus in the Ohio House of Representatives for over 25 years. She consistently displays high ethics and standards in her job and acts as a role model and counselor for her fellow colleagues. One of Jenell's outstanding achievements has been managing the Page Program, where she has developed many of our young professionals into the leaders they are today. Additionally, Jenell has served as a Fiscal Assistant in the Administrative Office, and she administered the Employee of the Quarter and Take Our Children to Work Day Programs.

I am extremely honored to play a small role in recognizing the career of such a well-respected and appreciated public servant. It is only fitting that her friends and colleagues recognize Jenell's impact on the Ohio House by naming a new award after her: The Jenell Sullivan Page of Distinction Award. This prestigious award will honor pages who meet the highest quality standards that Jenell has displayed throughout her tenure in the Ohio House.

On behalf of the citizens of Ohio's 12th Congressional District, I thank Jenell Sullivan for her spirit and unrelenting service to our community.

HONORING THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF DR. J. EUGENE GRIGSBY, JR.

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. PASTOR of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and contributions of the legendary Phoenix artist, community activist, and my personal friend, J. Eugene Grigsby, Jr. He passed from this life on June 9, 2013 and will be remembered at a memorial service on October 19th at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Phoenix. Dr. Grigsby was an African American artist recognized nationally and internationally as one of America's premier art educators. He was a friend and supporter who spent his life painting, educating, and working as a tireless advocate for community based art programs and social justice.

Dr. Grigsby served on the faculty of Arizona State University (ASU) for 22 years, from 1966–1988. Prior to accepting that post, he had a long history in the Phoenix public school system. He was recruited to Phoenix in 1946

to establish an Art Department at the segregated Carver High School, which closed following the 1954 Brown vs. Board of Education landmark decision. Dr. Grigsby then went to Phoenix Union High School where he again taught Art and served as Chair of the Art Department. He would often let his students pile into his old blue station wagon and take them on field trips to Native American reservations, galleries and even to the home of Frank Lloyd Wright.

Jefferson Eugene Grigsby, Jr., was born in Greensboro, NC, on October 17, 1918. His family settled in Charlotte, NC, when he was 12 years old. Upon graduation from Morehouse College in Atlanta, GA, in 1938, Eugene attended the American Artists School in New York City. Thereafter, Eugene graduated with a Master's degree in Art Education from Ohio State University in 1940.

While teaching at Bethune-Cookman College in Daytona Beach, he met and married Rosalyn Thomasena Marshall. In 1942, Eugene volunteered for service in World War II, serving in the European Theater under the 3rd Army's General George Patton. In 1963, Dr. Grigsby received his Ph.D. from New York University.

In 1966, he was awarded the National Gallery of Art's 25th Anniversary Medallion of Merit and in 1992 was inducted into the Arizona History Makers the first year the award was presented. Dr. Grigsby was a prominent member of the National Art Education Association and was a co-founder of its Committee on Multicultural Concerns which established the J. Eugene Grigsby, Jr. Award for Service to Education in his honor.

Dr. Grigsby also served on numerous boards and professional organizations in the Phoenix community; including, the Arizona Art Education Association; President, Booker T. Washington Child Development Center; Founder and Chair, Coalition of Black Artists and Others for the Arts (COBA); Chair, ABC/Az-Artists of the Black Community; Arizona Opportunities Industrialization Center; Neighborhood Housing Services of Phoenix; the Garfield Neighborhood Association; and the ASU Performing Arts Board.

Eugene Grigsby's art can be seen in private and public collections around the world, including the Library of Congress, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Phoenix Art Museum, and Arizona State University. In December 2012, Phoenix Mayor Greg Stanton presented the inaugural Mayor's Arts Award for outstanding visual artist to Dr. Grigsby. After his death, the Award was named in his honor.

Mr. Speaker, I am deeply honored to have known Eugene Grigsby and to have had some of his artwork hang in my congressional district office. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing his many contributions to Phoenix and the global community. We have lost a great artist, teacher, mentor, community activist, and friend. I extend my condolences to his siblings, his sons, his extended family and to all in the Phoenix arts community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, on October 14, 2013, I missed three recorded votes on the House floor. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall 547, "yea" on rollcall 548, and "nay" on rollcall 549.

HONORING BILL ROSENDAHL

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize Bill Rosendahl, a tireless advocate for the City of Los Angeles and a deserving recipient of the Valley Democrats United Badge of Courage Award.

From 2005 until 2013, Bill was a public servant in the City of Los Angeles and demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the priorities of the city and its people.

Bill has always been a champion of the issues that matter most in his community. Serving the areas of Pacific Palisades, Playa Del Rey, Playa Vista, Venice, Mar Vista, Brentwood, Del Rey, West Los Angeles and Westchester, he has been instrumental in providing affordable housing, supporting neighborhood empowerment initiatives, finding innovative solutions to remedy the city's traffic problems, and was always a champion of government transparency.

During his term as District 11 Councilmember, Bill always ensured that he pushed for projects and investments that truly helped the communities he served. In Del Rey, he helped to restore the USPS mail delivery service to Mar Vista Gardens and worked with Caltrans to address residents' concerns with highway widening plans. In West Los Angeles, Bill's commitment to keep kids out of gangs resulted in the establishment of a youth intervention program at Stoner Recreation Center. Bill also supported a community-friendly modernization of Los Angeles International Airport (LAX).

As a veteran himself, Bill has advocated for and championed numerous projects that serve veterans in the region. Most notably, he supported the construction of the Fisher House in Brentwood to serve families of wounded veterans. Bill also took on the challenge of providing sustainable housing and resources for the thousands of homeless veterans.

During the course of his career, Bill has helped his constituency with the installation of countless stop signs and traffic signals and the repavement of dozens of roads and streets. Additionally, he oversaw the completion of several large city projects and secured

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

funding to help the city and residents of Los Angeles.

His career and life have always been centered on the ideals of positive change for Los Angeles. As the first openly gay man elected to the Los Angeles City Council, he serves as an inspiration to others and has set an important precedent for other gay leaders to run for office.

I have personally known Bill for many years and I can say that he is an individual who exemplifies compassion, optimism and dedication to public service. His leadership and charisma have created a needed forum for public dialogue and community exchange for which Angelinos will be forever grateful.

Valley Democrats United is honoring Bill for his "conviction, courage, and integrity" as an advocate for the homeless, tenants, LGBT rights, and innovative transit solutions. He is also being recognized for his public service and for empowering people through the media. I am pleased to join with the Valley Democrats United in honoring, my friend, Bill Rosendahl.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF BEULAH FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize the 75th anniversary of Beulah First Baptist Church and its service to the Northwest Florida community.

Beulah First Baptist Church is the second oldest church in Fort Walton Beach, Florida. Originally known as the First Community Church and then later as the Colored Community Baptist Church, Beulah First Baptist's founding began when its first members were inspired by the desire to learn and heed the Lord's Word. Beginning in 1938, its service to its congregation grew from Bible Study and adult veterans classes held in member homes to an expanded Bible Study and Sunday Church School under the leadership of Reverend O.R. Robinson in 1943. Both the Bible Study and the Sunday Church School are still active today.

Throughout its 75 years, Beulah First Baptist Church has been blessed with the leadership of nine pastors, including: Reverends W. Garrett (1938); H. McNeil (1938); O.R. Robinson (1943); E.W. Thomson (1945); Fitzchew (1952); A.D. Bell, Sr. (1953); David Savage (1969); Matthew Payne, Jr. (1970); and Scottie L. Thigpen (1981 to present).

A true testament to God's work through His people, the Church has experienced much growth over the years, particularly in 1988. This year not only marked the Church's Golden Anniversary, but also a year of many firsts: the Church formed the Women's Fellowship Luncheon, the Church Banquet, and the Intermediate Women's Prayer Breakfast. Additionally, the Church began contributing ten percent of its tithes and offering to local and foreign missions. In recent years, the Church established a singles ministry in 1993 and a Children's Church in 1994. In 1998, Beulah Christian Academy opened its doors as did the Mission Outreach Ministry and the McGriff Office Facility in 2005.

Since its founding, members of Beulah First Baptist Church have helped build God's Kingdom here on earth through their outreach to the citizens of Fort Walton Beach and the surrounding area, and I would like to thank them for their service to Northwest Florida.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it gives me great pleasure to commemorate the 75th anniversary of Beulah First Baptist Church. My wife Vicki joins me in wishing the Church all the best for continued success. May the Spirit of the Lord continue to bless this Church and its congregation.

TRIBUTE TO HARDEEVILLE-RIDGELAND MIDDLE SCHOOL INCENTIVE PROGRAM

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an innovative program taking place to incentivize students at a Jasper County, South Carolina middle school. Hardeeville-Ridgeland Middle School is in a rural, persistent poverty county where more than 20 percent of its population has lived below the poverty line for the last 30 years. Eighty-eight percent of the students who attend Hardeeville-Ridgeland Middle School qualify for free or reduced lunch. Yet the Jasper County School Superintendent Vashti Washington is working hard to encourage students in this school to focus on their academics raise their self esteem and dream of better of futures.

I am pleased the James E. Clyburn Research and Scholarship Foundation is underwriting the cost of Dr. Washington's program to provide school letters and pins to students at Hardeeville-Ridgeland Middle who meet certain criteria established by the school. Students will be awarded letters and pins for certain levels of achievements in the classroom, on PASS tests, and several other extra-curricular activities, just as many schools do for athletics. These letters and pins are intended to set up healthy competition among students and to recognize and incentivize their achievements and performances.

I want to highlight four of the students who have demonstrated the drive and dedication needed to earn this recognition. All four of these students have received "exemplary" in at least four areas of PASS testing, which assesses the knowledge of students in the core academic areas of writing, English, math, science, and social studies.

Amber Crosby is an eighth grader who scored exemplary in all five areas of the PASS test. She is an award-winning artist who attended a Visual Arts Summer Academy, and she is also working on her first novel. She is on the principal's honor roll and attributes much of her success to the values instilled in her by her parents who taught her the importance of her diverse heritage, which includes Polish, Russian, Irish, British and Native American descendants. Amber aspires to be an artist or work in veterinary medicine.

Lorena Escobar is an eighth grader from Hardeeville who takes her academics very seriously. An honor roll student, she is currently enrolled in Algebra I Honors, English I Honors

and Spanish I. She enjoys drawing and music, and spending time with her parents and her younger sister. Lorena is passionate about eliminating bullying.

Kaleb Frazier is a seventh grade honors student. His favorite subjects are writing and math. He is also very athletic and plays linebacker for the school football team. In his spare time he writes rap music and spends time with his family. Kaleb hopes one day to be an attorney or a computer engineer.

Cynthia Simental-Parra is a seventh grade student from Hardeeville. She loves math and history and describes herself as "artsy." She enjoys singing, drawing and sewing, and is a member of band and chorus. She is also active in track and soccer. Cynthia would like to become a singer, but if that doesn't work out she would consider running for President of the United States.

These are just four of the outstanding students that will be recognized with a school letter from Hardeeville-Ridgeland Middle. It is my sincere hope that they will continue to be wonderful examples to their classmates and that they encourage others to earn their letters as well.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my great appreciation to Superintendent Washington for implementing this visionary program at Hardeeville-Ridgeland Middle School. It is my hope that through such positive reinforcement these and other students will work hard and attain their dreams.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to have it noted in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD that I was not able to be in Washington on October 14, 2013 for votes because of events in the district.

If I had been here, I would have voted as follows:

On the motion to table the appeal of the ruling of the Chair, roll No. 547, I would have voted "no."

On the passage of H.J. Res. 80, roll No. 548, I would have voted "no."

On agreeing to the Grayson amendment, roll No. 549, I would have voted "yes."

HONORING MIKKI BELVEDERE

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Coconut Creek Commissioner and Vice Mayor, Mikki Belvedere. Mikki's professional achievements and volunteer work have touched countless individuals and organizations throughout our community, and I want to recognize her for her amazing record of service in South Florida.

Mikki has been a visible fixture in South Florida business community for over three decades, having served as President of Belvedere Insurance and Financial Services since

1980. She is also a board member for the Saw Grass Association for Insurance and Financial Advisors. In addition to her successful career in finance, Mikki has been actively involved in local government and was elected to the Coconut Creek Commission as Vice Mayor, where she will serve until 2017. Her record of public and political service extends into her Wynmoor Village and Coconut Creek community, where she serves as President and Program Chair of the Wynmoor Democratic Club and is a member of the Wynmoor Hurricane Emergency Network. Mikki is also a member of the Women's Club of Coconut Creek. Adding to her track record, Mikki chairs several boards in the area, including the Environmental Board of Coconut Creek, the Affordable Housing Committee, and the Coconut Creek Planning and Zoning Board.

In addition to her private sector career and public service, Mikki has dedicated a generous portion of her time to South Florida's Jewish community. Mikki serves as Board Member and Trustee of the Liberal Jewish Temple, where she has helped 10 women become Bat-Mitzvah. She is the founder of the Hebrew Movie Club, and is currently the President of the Yiddish Club in Township. She currently holds membership with the National Council of Jewish Women, Hadassah, Holocaust Survivors' Club, and the Sisterhood of the Beth Shalom Temple, among many others.

I join today with Mikki's family, including her three daughters, five grandchildren and one great grandchild, in honoring Mikki's incredible contributions to our community. I wish her many more years of success in all of her future endeavors.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR.
HOWARD JACOBSON

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Dr. Howard Jacobson, who passed away on October 9, 2013 at the age of 88. Howard was an incredible man who loved his family and dedicated his life to strengthening the relationship between the public and its media.

Born on August 22, 1925 in Worcester, Massachusetts, Howard learned the value of hard work through selling ice boxes in his father's appliance store. He went on to earn his undergraduate degree at the University of New Mexico, then his graduate degree at the Missouri School of Journalism. Following graduation, Howard worked as a stringer for the Associated Press during World War II and later began a 36-year career as a teaching professor at the University of Bridgeport.

Between his time as a professor and Chair of the Journalism Department at the University of Bridgeport and a professor at Columbia University, Howard encouraged students to expand beyond their traditional means of communication to reach new audiences. His students thrived in this interactive environment that culminated in the circulation of a community newspaper that focused on local issues. Howard reveled in the special relationship be-

tween communities and their news, and he passed this enthusiasm onto his students. Testimonies from former students emphasize that Howard always took the time to focus on each and every student, and that his guidance, largely influenced by study of the behavioral sciences, continues to have a powerful impact on their careers today.

Outside of the classroom, Howard participated on the New England Cable Advisory Council for 30 years. He also founded the first Center for the Development for Community Media, which built on the lessons he taught in the classroom. Through the Center, Howard experimented with different means of communicating with the public in the urban media environment and encouraged his students to do the same. Finally, he co-authored several books that focused on the intersection of mass communications theory and technology, and how that connection would shape the future of journalism. All of Howard's work reinforced his belief that the public access to news depended on fiercely protecting first amendment rights and making the most of all available means of dissemination.

Howard leaves behind his wife, Dr. Dana Raphael, and his children Brett, Seth, and Jessa. Full of love and memories, Howard and Dana recently celebrated 60 wonderful years of marriage.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to the life of Howard Jacobson, a beloved husband, father, professor, journalist, and friend.

CONGRATULATING DR. ELIAS A.
ZERHOUNI

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Elias A. Zerhouni of Fort Lauderdale for his induction into the National Academy of Engineering, an honor he received for his outstanding work on new MRI methods and his national leadership in translational medical research.

Dr. Zerhouni is a prolific researcher and scientist, and his long career illustrates his passion for public service and saving lives.

His story exemplifies the American dream: he came to this country almost 40 years ago from a small village in Algeria, with only \$369 in his pocket. Having graduated from medical school in Algeria, he started as a radiology resident at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and rose to the position of Executive Vice Dean of the School of Medicine and the Chair of the Radiology and Radiological Sciences Department at Johns Hopkins University Hospital. After leaving Johns Hopkins, he served as the 15th Director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), a position he held from 2002–2008.

His research has led to major advances in CAT Scan and MRI technology. These developments include innovative imaging methods used to diagnose cancer, cardiovascular disease, and pulmonary disease. His accomplish-

ments also include authoring over 200 publications, holding eight patents, and co-founding five companies.

In honor of his induction into the National Academy of Engineering and all his important contributions to public health, I am pleased to recognize Dr. Zerhouni and to thank him for his service to our country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, on October 7, 2013, I missed rollcall vote Nos. 527 and 528 for district business. Had I been present I would have voted "no" on both.

HONORING ED HAMM, JR. ON RECEIVING THE HOMETOWN HERO AWARD FROM THE MODERN WOODMEN OF AMERICA

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my friend, Ed Hamm, Jr. of East Millinocket, Maine, on receiving the Hometown Hero award from the Modern Woodmen of America.

The Hometown Hero award is given to individuals and groups who selflessly commit themselves to their communities, asking for nothing in return. As a coach, business owner, and member of several recreational and fraternal organizations, Ed is truly a renaissance man when it comes to community engagement, and to those who know Ed, it is no mystery why he has been selected to receive this award.

Few people can claim involvement in as many different aspects of their community as Ed. He has served as a basketball coach at the Junior Varsity, Junior High School and Pee Wee levels, including traveling all-star teams. He is also a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Shriners International, the Masonic Society, and the East Millinocket Recreation Committee. Perhaps most famously, Ed owned and operated the Hamlet Motel, later known as the Hamlet Pub, from 1976 to 2011. The Hamlet served as a home base and meeting point for many in the community, especially the athletes of Schenck High School who frequently enjoyed meals there before major competitions. The Hamlet's slogan, "you are a stranger here but once," truly exemplifies Ed's attitude towards those in his community.

On Thursday, October 17, 2013, at Medway Middle School, Ed Hamm, Jr. will be recognized for his extraordinary record in community service during a dinner and awards ceremony.

Mr. Speaker, please join me again in recognizing East Millinocket's Hometown Hero, Ed Hamm, Jr., for his outstanding community service.

RECOGNIZING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST PENTECOSTAL CHURCH OF PENSACOLA

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize the 80th anniversary of the First Pentecostal Church of Pensacola and its service to Florida's Gulf Coast.

The First Pentecostal Church of Pensacola traces its roots back to the Great Depression and its founder, Pastor David Lamar "D.L." Welch, who preached and established churches across the Nation from California to Florida. His travels eventually brought him to Pensacola in 1933, where he erected a tent revival on "O" Street between Strong and DeSoto Streets and baptized 75 members of the Northwest Florida community.

Pastor Welch served the church for two years before embarking again on the evangelistic trail. Reverend Oliver Fauss took over as Pastor until Pastor Welch's return in 1939. In addition to serving the church, Brother Welch played an active role in the community as a District Superintendent and a member of the Florida District Board, as well as, the Chaplain of the Florida Senate under Florida Governor Fuller Warren.

Brother Welch and his wife of seventy years, the former Lottie Mae Holloway, brought up their children in the Pentecostal faith. Their son Paul eventually became Pastor in 1975. Brother Paul, with the help of his wife, Sister Shirley, oversaw the construction of the church and helped expand it into what it has become today.

In 1999, Brian Kinsey was elected Pastor of the First Pentecostal Church and in 2007, Senior Pastor of the church. Today, he and his wife, Lanette, continue to inspire those around them and are committed to bettering the local community.

Throughout its eighty year history, the First Pentecostal Church of Pensacola has held on to the strong, moral framework and religious convictions of its original founders. The church continues to share the word of God with His people. I would like to thank its members and pastoral leadership for their service to Northwest Florida.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it gives me great pleasure to commemorate the 80th anniversary of First Pentecostal Church of Pensacola. My wife Vicki joins me in wishing the members of the church all the best for continued success. May the Spirit of the Lord continue to bless them.

WORLD FOOD DAY RECOGNITION

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to on behalf of millions of children and families worldwide in danger of starvation.

Each year, malnourishment accounts for almost half of the 6.9 million deaths among children under the age of five. The first 1,000 days between the start of a woman's preg-

nancy and her child's second birthday are critical to the long term survival of these children. As we recognize World Food Day today, we must do more to support ending maternal and child malnutrition.

That's why I introduced H. Res. 254 with my colleague, Representative MARIO DIAZ-BALART. This resolution raises awareness of the critical 1,000-day window and encourages relevant federal agencies to better coordinate and track nutrition outcomes.

As a mother, it pains me to think of a child dying because he or she doesn't have enough food to eat, especially when our planet produces enough food to feed every man, woman, and child.

I urge my colleagues to join us in cosponsoring H. Res. 254 and give a voice to the millions of vulnerable and hungry children around the world.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS BY THE FOLKS OF THE EATON COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION AND THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2013 ALVIN WHITFIELD COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS

HON. TIM WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize the contributions made to Mid-Michigan by the folks of the Eaton County Parks and Recreation Commission and to recognize their recipients of the 2013 Alvin Whitfield Community Service Awards.

The Eaton County Parks and Recreation Commission has provided quality recreational activities to the citizens of Eaton County, Michigan since 1970, and are enabled by the help of many individuals, service clubs, and businesses.

The Parks Commission recently acknowledged the service of key contributors by awarding them with the Alvin Whitfield Community Service Award. These individuals exemplify the spirit of service displayed by Alvin Whitfield, a long time Parks Commissioner who has served Eaton County for many years. I am pleased to join the Parks Commission in recognizing the awardees:

Shelli Smith, Jill Sambour, Christine Heverly and Patrick Sustrich for their outstanding volunteer service and commitment to improving the quality of life in Eaton County;

Jill Russell, Joe Bristol, Chuck Pantera, John Haneski and Rob Piercefield for their leadership role in support of Parks programs, special events and projects;

Aric Prudden, Jeff Smith, Wayne Curtis, Pat Harrington and Sherriff Tom Reich for their energy and leadership in sponsoring and administering unique participatory events to serve children of all ages;

And Valerie Glesnes-Anderson, Julie Powers, Terry VanDoren, Gerald Jalszynski and Willis Bennett for providing valuable technical assistance, advice and financial support for the operation and management of the Parks.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Alvin Whitfield 2013 Community Service Award nominees and thank them for their efforts that have greatly benefited Eaton County.

HONORING THE LIFE OF HONEY MILLER

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues, Congresswoman GRACE MENG and Congressman STEVE ISRAEL, to commemorate the life and service of Honey Miller. Ms. Miller passed away in her 95th year.

Honey Miller was a loyal and proud Democrat who dedicated her life to strengthening the party and serving her community. Honey began her distinguished career by working on Democratic Leader Louis Wallach's campaign for the State Assembly. When recalling the experience and her introduction to politics, she once said, "a neighbor asked me to help out on the campaign and I never got out of it."

She went on to work with the Queens Borough President's office for 17 years and then as a Coordinator for Community Board 11. She was promoted to Deputy Director of Community Boards for the Queens Borough and served as Chair of the Women's Division of the New York State Democratic Party for two years.

In 1972, she was elected as a Democratic Party official as the Queens Democratic District leader for the 24th Assembly District, where she was consistently reelected until her retirement in 2011. Honey was a tireless public servant for the Democratic Party in Queens. As District Leader she was responsible for selecting candidates, working closely with the Queens County Democratic Organization, and strengthening the Democratic Party. Honey founded the Eleanor Roosevelt Democratic Club to increase the Democratic Party's involvement in the community.

Mr. Speaker, Honey was an indispensable asset to Queens. She's been described by others as the "bedrock of the Democratic Party" and the "grand dame of northeast Queens politics." With a career that spanned four decades, she truly exemplified the meaning of a public servant.

The legacy that she leaves not only reflects her love for the Democratic Party, but also the admiration she had for the residents of Queens.

Mr. Speaker, for her service to the people of New York and devotion to her family and friends, we ask all of our colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Honey Miller.

HONORING VIRGINIA GALLUP LARSEN, M. ED., M.A./CAGS

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the outstanding contributions made by Virginia Gallup Larsen, M. Ed., M.A./CAGS in improving the lives of children and families across the City of Alexandria and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Ms. Larsen is a 17-year resident of Arlington and a Nationally Certified School Psychologist

with 20 years of experience working with diverse populations in the Washington, DC, metropolitan region. She was recently named 2013 Virginia School Psychologist of the Year by the National Association of School Psychologists. Ms. Larsen is the first school psychologist from the City of Alexandria, where she is in her 13th year with Alexandria City Public Schools.

Ms. Larsen's wide area of expertise allows her to offer a host of comprehensive services to a diverse student population. Areas of expertise include: conducting psychological and educational evaluations, functional behavior assessments, pre-referral intervention consultations, and treatment assessments. She is deeply admired by her colleagues and the families she works with for her dedication and expertise.

After personally observing persistent problems caused by bullying, Ms. Larsen responded by securing a grant to implement the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program. She launched the program in a single school before advocating for its expansion to serve all Alexandria's students. She is now a bullying and violence prevention consultant across the Alexandria school system, providing dozens of free bullying prevention workshops.

Ms. Larsen, in conjunction with physical education teacher Kathy Chmura, worked to establish the Run for Fun program at James K. Polk Elementary School to address the problem of childhood obesity. The program creates an enjoyable physical activity that encourages children to establish healthy lifestyles, set personal goals, increase stamina, and form friendships outside of school.

Ms. Larsen directed and managed the Alexandria City division of the National High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area research project, where she facilitated the treatment component of an intensive outpatient treatment program. She provided therapy to clients and served as a program link to more and less restrictive services.

I am deeply proud of the lasting contributions made by Virginia Gallup Larsen, along with the other hard-working and dedicated Alexandria City Public Schools employees. She is representative of what those working in this under recognized, yet truly essential profession, should strive to attain.

HONORING THE VETERANS OF THE OCTOBER 16, 2013 EASTERN IOWA HONOR FLIGHT

HON. DAVID LOEBSACK

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. LOEBSACK. Mr. Speaker, today, over eighty Iowa veterans of World War II and the Korean War have traveled to our nation's capital. Together, they will visit the monuments that were built in their honor by a grateful nation. At a time of great division in our capital, our veterans of the World War II and Korean War generations remind us not only of the best of our great nation but also the unity with which our nation responded to great challenges.

For many of these heroes, today will be the first time they will see the National World War II Memorial and the Korean War Veterans Me-

morial. I am humbled to have the opportunity to personally thank these heroes on behalf of every Iowan I represent for their service to our nation and to pay tribute to the incredible sacrifice they made for our country.

We owe these heroes a debt of gratitude and the Honor Flight demonstrates that we will never forget the debt we owe those who have worn our nation's uniform. Our World War II and Korean War veterans rose to defend not just our nation, but the freedoms, democracy, and values that make our country the greatest nation on earth. They did so as one people and one country.

The sheer magnitude of what the Greatest Generation accomplished, not just in war but in the peace that followed, continues to inspire us today. Their generation and our country did not seek to be tested but when called upon to do so, they defended and then rebuilt our nation to make it even stronger. Their patriotism, service, and sacrifice not only defined their generation—they stand as a testament to the fortitude of our nation and the American people. Their legacy endures today.

I am tremendously proud to welcome the Eastern Iowa Honor Flight and Iowa's veterans of the Second World War and the Korean War to our nation's capital today. On behalf of every Iowan I represent, I thank them for their service to our country.

RECOGNIZING WOODLAWN CEMETERY AND CELEBRATING CLEAN-UP OUR HISTORY DAY AT WOODLAWN CEMETERY

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the historic Woodlawn Cemetery and in celebrating Clean-up our History Day at Woodlawn Cemetery in the District of Columbia on Saturday, October 19, 2013, at 10 a.m.

Woodlawn Cemetery is the final resting place for many prominent African Americans, among them, Blanche K. Bruce, the first African American U.S. Senator; Mercer Langston, the first African American President of Virginia State University, the first dean of Howard University Law School and the first African American Member of Congress from the State of Virginia; and John Willis Menard, the first African American elected to Congress. There are 36,000 African Americans buried at Woodlawn, including ordinary citizens but also many of the most distinguished African Americans of the 19th and the early 20th centuries.

Located in Southeast Washington, DC, Woodlawn Cemetery, for good reasons, has been on both the District of Columbia's Inventory of Historic Sites and the National Register of Historic Places since the early 1990s. The daily operations of the cemetery are entrusted to the Woodlawn Cemetery Perpetual Care Association, but most who work with the association as volunteers have loved ones buried there. The main focus of the association is to preserve the cemetery and to raise funds to renovate and restore prominence to this sacred site.

This treasured site needs our help in the same way that a congressional resolution

aided in getting assistance from citizens and from volunteers from the armed forces for the Congressional Cemetery two decades ago. The Woodlawn Cemetery Perpetual Care Association, along with DC National Guard volunteers, has developed a cleanup plan to restore this historic site. On Saturday, October 19, 2013, we will celebrate the first Clean-up our History Day at Woodlawn Cemetery, 3900 Benning Road, SE, at 10 a.m. Joining us for the clean-up will be Yvette Alexander, Ward 7 Councilmember; Major General Errol R. Schwartz, Commanding General of the District of Columbia National Guard; Lonnie Bunch, Founding Director of the National Museum of African American History and Culture; Dr. Vincent Hill, University of the District of Columbia Mortuary Science Program Director; and supporting organizations and residents from all over the city.

I ask the House to join me as we recognize the volunteers from the District of Columbia National Guard, Woodlawn Cemetery Perpetual Care Association, and families of loved ones interred at Woodlawn for their participation in the kickoff of the cleanup of historic Woodlawn Cemetery as we begin an effort to restore the cemetery to its rightful place on the historical map for the benefit of families, historians, scholars and visitors, and cast light on one of the most important periods in African American history.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MR. ANTHONY J. DELMONTE

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life and legacy of Mr. Anthony J. Delmonte, who passed away on October 12, 2013 at the age of 88.

A resident of the Town of Orchard Park, he and his brothers built many of their homes and worked at the New York Central Railroad for twenty years. In 1963, Mr. Delmonte began working for Bethlehem Steel where he was employed for nineteen years. In addition, he helped build and operate the Burmon Inn, owned by his brother John, and owned and operated the Round-Up Hot Dog Stand in Lackawanna.

Mr. Delmonte was a proud American, who honorably served his nation. Immediately after graduating from Lackawanna High School in 1941, he served as Private First Class for the United States Marine Corps in World War II. His Marine unit was deployed to Nagasaki, Japan shortly after the atomic bomb was dropped in 1945. Mr. Delmonte was honorably discharged in 1946.

Mr. Delmonte was an active member of his community. He was involved in Orchard Park politics for many years. He was also President of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Senior Citizens and a member of the Buffalo Raceway Horseman's Association.

Mr. Delmonte was a devoted, loving family man. He leaves behind his wife of sixty-three years, Ethel, two children, Anthony and Denise, grandchildren, Lisa and Samantha, and great-grandchildren Jeffrey and Giada.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in expressing our deepest condolences to

the family of the late Anthony J. Delmonte, and join with me in honoring his life and legacy.

HONORING CHRIS LOWERY

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chris Lowery of Batesville, Indiana on being selected by Governor Mike Pence to chair the Indiana Region 9 Works Council.

Chris has worked at Hillenbrand, Inc. for 19 years, currently as the Director of Public Policy and Engagement. A graduate of Indiana University, Chris previously was the Executive Director of the Association of Indiana Counties as well as an aide to former Indiana Governor Robert Orr and Senator Dan Quayle. Chris has also dedicated his time to education serving on the Batesville Community School Corporation's Board of Trustees as President and founding the Batesville Community Education Foundation.

Chris' leadership in business and education will greatly benefit Hoosiers as he serves as Chair of the Indiana Region 9 Works Council. The Indiana Works Council, created by Governor Pence, is responsible for submitting evaluations of the career, technical and vocational education opportunities that will be used to better prepare high school students for entering the workforce.

I ask the entire 6th Congressional District to join me in congratulating Chris Lowery on having been selected to serve the State of Indiana as Chair of the Indiana Region 9 Works Council.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$16,747,370,534,090.62. We've added \$6,120,493,485,177.54 to our debt in 4 years. This is \$6.1 trillion in debt our Nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

TRIBUTE TO HONOR FLIGHT OF OREGON

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 50 World War II veterans from Oregon who will be visiting their memorial this Saturday in Washington, DC through Honor Flight of Oregon. On behalf of a grateful State and country, we welcome these heroes to the Nation's Capital.

The veterans on this flight from Oregon are as follows: Kenneth W. Jacobsen, U.S. Army Air Force; Raymond Smith, U.S. Army Air Force; Virgil E. Trick, U.S. Army Air Force; Charles Williamson, U.S. Army Air Force; Victor H. Banke, U.S. Army; David G. Blattner, U.S. Army; Merle L. Brandsrud, U.S. Army; Gerald J. Broadhurst, U.S. Army; Homer P. Farley, U.S. Army; Donald P. Hancock, U.S. Army; Donald E. Hill, U.S. Army; Arnold J. Jensen, U.S. Army; Ralph E. Johnson, U.S. Army; Jack P. Mills, U.S. Army; William E. Thompson, U.S. Army; William C. Upham, U.S. Army; William A. Vorisek, U.S. Army; Loyd A. Wiltermood, U.S. Army; Vincent R. Gersch, U.S. Marines; Richard R. Harlow, U.S. Marines; Edward L. Killeen, U.S. Marines; Robert J. Klink, U.S. Marines; Robert J. Pattock, U.S. Marines; Benjamin Asquith, Jr., U.S. Navy; Bruce Bennett, U.S. Navy; Louis W. Boesel, U.S. Navy; Eugene S. Clift, U.S. Navy; Rodney L. Downey, U.S. Navy; John B. Dowty, U.S. Navy; Warren J. Dunn, U.S. Navy; Joyce L. Evans, U.S. Navy; Ross H. Flintjer, U.S. Navy; Victor B. Fryer, U.S. Navy; Leonard S. Gislser, U.S. Navy; B. Bruce Huffman, U.S. Navy; Robert L. Jensen, U.S. Navy; Howard D. Kyle, U.S. Navy; Arthur E. Mosher, U.S. Navy; Theodore M. Phillips, U.S. Navy; Richard B. Royse, U.S. Navy; Willard G. Scott, U.S. Navy; Glenndon L. Stam, U.S. Navy; Raymond L. Tompkins, U.S. Navy; Richard H. Wemhoener, U.S. Navy; Charles R. Westerberg, U.S. Navy; Robert C. White, U.S. Navy; Frank L. Woodrum, U.S. Navy; Henry C. Zweigart, U.S. Navy; Richard W. Miller, U.S. Navy Reserves; Cherri P. Gregory, U.S. Navy—WAVES.

These 50 heroes join more than 98,000 veterans from across the country who, since 2005, have journeyed from their home States to Washington, DC to reflect at the memorials built in honor of our Nation's veterans.

Mr. Speaker, each of us is humbled by the courage of these soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who put themselves in harm's way for our country and way of life. As a nation, we can never fully repay the debt of gratitude owed to them for their honor, commitment, and sacrifice in defense of the freedoms we have today.

My colleagues, please join me in thanking these veterans and the volunteers of Honor Flight of Oregon for their exemplary dedication and service to this great country. I especially want to recognize and thank Gail Yakopatz for her tireless work as president of Honor Flight of Oregon.

HONORING THE GRAND OPENING OF THE FRESNO VETERANS HOME OF CALIFORNIA

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate the Central California Veterans Home Support Foundation and the California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet) upon the grand opening of the California Veterans Home in Fresno. This veterans' home is not simply a brick and mortar building. This home is a promise we have made to the veterans of the San Joaquin Val-

ley, and at long last we are keeping our promise.

Veterans in the San Joaquin Valley face great challenges every day. Tragically, more than 600 veterans in Fresno and Madera Counties go to sleep every night without a roof over their head. Guided by the belief that no man or woman who wore the uniform of the United States military should ever experience the scourge of homelessness, we set a goal of building a home to serve the needs of the veterans in the San Joaquin Valley.

Over the years, I have worked closely with the Central California Veterans Home Foundation (CCVHF), local veteran Charlie Waters and countless other volunteers and veteran advocates to plan, strategize, obtain funds and jump hurdles to be where we are today. Throughout the years, I have had many conversations with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to keep the funding in place for this home and with Cal Vet to break ground and begin construction.

This gorgeous home at 2811 West California Avenue is located in my 16th Congressional District in Southwest Fresno and is a 300 bed facility with state-of-the-art design and architecture. The facility is bringing employment to people in the Central Valley and security to our veterans who desire to live out the rest of their life with great honor and pride.

In May 2010 we were all at the future site of the home breaking ground on this beautiful piece of property. We shoveled dirt and we anxiously looked forward to this day with a great desire to quickly help the many veterans who would benefit from this home. However as we celebrate this grand occasion, we should pause to remember three dedicated veteran leaders from the foundation who were with us from the beginning and have since passed away. During the fight for the home, we lost George Sinopoli in 2006, Charles "Chuck" Parnell just a few months after we broke ground in 2010, and Bill Dietzel earlier this year. These great veterans worked closely with me and fought the great fight for this home. Their hard work and dedication will not be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, the opening of the California Veterans Home in Fresno is truly a long-awaited and special event. I rise today to commend and congratulate CalVet, the VA, the Central California Veterans Home Foundation and all the organizations and individuals that have made this the opening possible. I invite my colleagues to join in wishing the home and its future residents great success.

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF TEÓFILO "AARÓN" VARGAS SEIN

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, to recognize the life and service of Teófilo "Aarón" Vargas Sein, Spiritual Leader and President of the church Congregación Mita, Inc.

Aarón was born on October 23, 1921 in Hatillo, Puerto Rico. Before his birth, his mother, Concepción Sein, suffered from a difficult

pregnancy. She promised God that if he would grant her a good delivery and a healthy child, she would dedicate him entirely to His service. Later, her only son was born, healthy and strong, and she named him Teófilo, which means, "Loved by God."

Teófilo and his parents were part of the first group of eleven members who alongside Juanita García Peraza "Mita" founded the Congregación Mita Church in Arecibo, Puerto Rico. He began his Ministry at the age of 15 and Mita later changed his name to Aarón. Aarón managed the administration of the church's assets and was also the first preacher, the senior guard, and the lead percussionist of the church's band.

In 1970, when Juanita García Peraza passed away, AAarón accepted the leadership of the Congregation. Under his direction, there has been great expansion of Mita's work in Puerto Rico and in the United States, including New York, Florida, Texas, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Illinois, and North Carolina. Internationally, the church is established in Spain, the Dominican Republic, Canada, Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Costa Rica, Panama, El Salvador, and Mexico. In Florida, there are congregations in Orlando, Ocala, Miami, and Tampa.

In addition to the spiritual work carried out by AAarón, under his leadership, the church carries out many other social missions. AAarón founded several institutions and entities to provide assistance to members and non-members in every location where the church is established, including Orlando, FL. Among them are: the Colegio Congregación Mita, an elementary through high school established in Puerto Rico; El Paraíso Nursing Home, a center for seniors who are unable to care for themselves; and the Office for Counseling and Social Work.

I am happy to honor Teófilo "Aarón" Vargas Seín, during Hispanic Heritage Month, for his dedication to the service of others.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF MAURICE FERRE

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, to recognize Maurice Ferre, a great Floridian.

Maurice A. Ferre was born on June 23, 1935, in Ponce, Puerto Rico. He was the son of businessman José Ferré and the nephew of the legendary Luis Ferre, Puerto Rico's Governor and recipient of the Presidential Medal of Honor.

Mr. Ferre served in the Florida House of Representatives from 1967–68 where he was a strong voice for Hispanics and helped create an ever-lasting legacy as a pioneer for the middle class. Maurice Ferre is the highly regarded former Mayor of Miami, where he was elected to six terms serving from 1973–1985. As Mayor, he led Miami through some of its most tumultuous and prosperous times. As the first Puerto Rican born mayor of a U.S. city and the first Hispanic Mayor of Miami, he helped build a world class city and international destination.

From 1993 to 1996, Mr. Ferre was Vice-Chairman of the Dade County Board of Commissioners. He has been active in national political campaigns and was a member of several presidential advisory boards.

Mr. Ferre is currently a Fellow at Princeton University and is writing a book about Hispanic contributions to American culture. Mr. Ferre is one of the driving forces behind the international-domestic, or "intermestic," dia-

logue, attempting to reach a consensus regarding Puerto Rico's political status from an "international" as well as "domestic" point of view.

I am happy to honor Maurice Ferre, during Hispanic Heritage Month, for his visionary leadership and his contributions to the state of Florida and the United States.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF ALEX RIVERA

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, to recognize the important contributions of Alex Rivera, a Walmart worker who has made huge sacrifices to help working families in Central Florida. Alex Rivera is a 30-year-old former Walmart worker. He is married with two children, Leah and Alexa.

Alex began working for Walmart in Orlando, Florida, on October 28, 2008. It was only part time, but he was very excited to be working for a major company that promised its employees a great future. He began working in the grocery department for \$7.50 an hour. He was happy the first year and learned a lot. His wife also worked at Walmart part time as a Customer Service Manager. During his first evaluation he received a \$.50 cent raise and was eventually offered a full-time position.

When Walmart began to drastically cut workers' hours, Alex found it hard to provide for his family. He picked up a second job at a local 7–11 and had to work 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Walmart and then 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. at his second job. His increased hours conflicted with his Walmart schedule, and his manager told him his Walmart job came first.

Alex and his wife had to apply for food stamps and Medicaid due to the low pay and limited hours offered at Walmart. Alex began searching online for other workers that shared these same difficulties. He found OUR Walmart and was connected with OUR Walmart leaders. Alex became a member of OUR Walmart and participated in an event at his store in July 2012.

He began organizing in the store and educating workers on their rights. Management spoke to him and told Alex he was not allowed to do this. Alex felt he was being harassed for his organizing efforts.

In September 2012, Walmart fired Alex in retaliation for his activism. Since then, Alex continues to stand up for Walmart workers. He knows the struggles workers face and wants to ensure that Walmart makes the positive changes needed for current and future workers.

I am happy to honor Alex Rivera, during Hispanic Heritage Month, for his sacrifice on behalf of those workers who still struggle for their rights.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF THE BORIQUEÑEERS

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, to recognize the 65th Infantry Regiment of the Third Division in the United States Army, "the Boriqueñeers." This all-volunteer Puerto Rican unit was nicknamed "the Borinqueñeers," from the name Borinquen given to Puerto Rico by its original inhabitants, the Taino Indians.

Puerto Ricans have fought for the United States as far back as the American Revolution. When Puerto Rico became a U.S. Territory after the 1898 Treaty of Paris, a military governor was appointed and soon the United States Army established itself in San Juan. The first body of native troops was authorized in 1898 and on June 30, 1901, the Porto Rico Provisional Regiment of Infantry was organized.

After their return from duty in Panama in March 1919, the Porto Rico Regiment of Infantry was renamed "the 65th Infantry Regiment." During this period, the first Puerto Rican to graduate from the United States Military Academy at West Point, Major Luis R. Esteves, was sent to Camp Las Casas to train Puerto Rican officers.

Over 62,000 Puerto Ricans joined the military during World War II, and over 43,000 Puerto Ricans served in the Korean War. Perhaps the Borinqueñeers most noteworthy moment was during the Korean War. In August, 1950, the Borinqueñeers landed in the port city of Pusan on the southeastern tip of Korea. They were sent into action immediately and joined U.S. forces holding a perimeter against the Communist North Korean invaders. The Borinqueñeers played an active role in the U.S. breakout and drive to the north.

While in Korea, the Borinqueñeers served in nine separate military campaigns, with hundreds of men giving their lives to serve their country. Once back home, the regiment won four Distinguished Service Crosses, 125 Silver Stars, and was awarded the Presidential Unit Citations and the Greek Gold Medal for Bravery.

Yet, while the Third Division received a presidential citation, the 65th Infantry Regiment did not, and none of its members were awarded the Medal of Honor. In 2013, two bills have been introduced, in the House of Representatives, that would confer the Congressional Gold Medal on the 65th Infantry Regiment.

I am happy to honor the 65th Infantry Regiment, during Hispanic Heritage Month, for its historic service to our nation.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF ROBERTO CLEMENTE

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic Heritage month, to recognize Roberto Clemente for his outstanding athletic achievements and humanitarian contributions.

As the first Puerto Rican to achieve baseball stardom, Clemente worked hard at the game. In his 18 seasons with the Pittsburgh Pirates, "The Great One" proved to be an all-around outstanding player, winning four National League batting titles and leading National League outfielders in assists for four seasons. He was awarded 12 Gold Gloves, selected as the 1966 National League MVP, and named the 1971 World Series MVP. Clemente was also the 11th Major League player to record 3,000 hits.

Clemente's accomplishments raised him to stardom, yet he never forgot his heritage and the prejudice he had faced. He fought for the recognition of his fellow Latino ballplayers, becoming a union leader for the baseball players association and speaking out about civil injustices. He was also involved in many community outreach programs to help inner city kids in Pittsburgh, and in the off season, he held free baseball clinics for kids in his home town.

Clemente began managing a Puerto Rican all-star team in Managua, Nicaragua. When an earthquake struck, he began organizing aid and supplies. He died at the age of 37 in a plane crash delivering relief supplies to Nicaragua. Roberto Clemente was posthumously presented the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Roberto Clemente Walker Congressional Gold Medal, and the first Presidential Citizen's Medal. Each year, Major League Baseball gives out the Roberto Clemente Award to a

player that demonstrates the humanitarian spirit embodied by Roberto Clemente.

I am happy to honor Roberto Clemente, during Hispanic Heritage Month, for his achievements on and off the baseball field.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF SONIA SOTOMAYOR

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, to recognize the achievements of the first Latina Supreme Court Justice, Sonia Sotomayor.

Justice Sotomayor graduated *summa cum laude* from Princeton University in 1976. While she was at Princeton she received the Pyne Prize, the highest academic award given to an undergraduate at the University. She continued on to Yale Law School where she was the editor of the Yale Law Journal. Sotomayor graduated from Yale Law School in 1979 and passed the bar in 1980. She immediately began working as the Assistant District Attorney in Manhattan.

In 1984, Sotomayor entered private practice, making partner in 1988 at a firm that specialized in intellectual property litigation. While working at the firm she also served on the board of the Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund, the New York City Campaign Finance Board, and the State of New York Mortgage Agency.

Her pro bono work at the agencies caught the attention of New York Senator Moynihan who recommended her for a seat on the New York district court. In 1992, President George H.W. Bush nominated her for a seat on the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York and she was unanimously confirmed by the Senate. In June of 1997, President Clinton nominated Sotomayor for a seat on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and she was confirmed to that seat in 1998. While serving in the Second Circuit Court of Appeals, Sotomayor began teaching as an adjunct professor of law at New York University and Columbia Law School, while also serving on the Board of Trustees for Princeton University.

On May 26, 2009, President Obama nominated Sonia Sotomayor for appointment to the U.S. Supreme Court. Her confirmation by the Senate in August of 2009 made Sonia Sotomayor the first Latina Supreme Court Justice.

As our country continues to become more diverse, Justice Sotomayor serves as a powerful role model for women and Latinos in the U.S. I am happy to honor Sonia Sotomayor, during Hispanic Heritage Month, for her many outstanding achievements.

HONORING THE HISTORIC CONTRIBUTIONS OF JUAN PONCE DE LEON

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, to recognize the extraordinary life of Juan Ponce de Leon, Spanish explorer, first Governor of Puerto Rico and discoverer of the great state of Florida.

Ponce de Leon grew up in a small provincial town in Spain. Seeking adventure, he became a member of Christopher Columbus' second voyage to the New World. During that expedition, Ponce de Leon rose quickly in prominence and was soon commissioned by the Spanish King as the First Governor of the newly discovered Puerto Rico. As Governor, he helped to nurture the new and growing island that is now home to so many hard-working Americans.

The adventurous spirit of Ponce de Leon did not die with his appointment as Governor to

Puerto Rico. In 1513 he set out on what was to be his most important journey. Traveling with a crew of 200, Ponce de Leon arrived at and named Florida on April 2, 1513. As he continued his journey, Ponce de Leon became the first European to have extensive contact and knowledge of the Floridian peninsula and discovered many of the sights and wonders that Floridians treasure to this day. The discoveries and numerous accomplishments of Ponce de Leon laid the foundation for both my great state of Florida as well as the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

I am pleased to honor Juan Ponce de Leon, during Hispanic Heritage Month, for his historic contributions to the state of Florida.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF RITA MORENO

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the inspiring career and numerous accomplishments of Rita Moreno.

Rita Moreno has broken new ground for Latinos in the field of entertainment throughout her career. In 1961, she became the first Hispanic actress to win the Oscar for Best Supporting Actress for her role in the movie *West Side Story*. Ms. Moreno is also one of only eleven entertainers in Hollywood to have received all four major entertainment honors: Emmy, Oscar, Tony and Grammy awards.

In addition to film, stage, television and concert commitments, Ms. Moreno fills her spare time by lecturing to various organizations and university audiences on such topics as *The Value of Diversity to our Culture*, *The Power of Language*, and *A History of the Arts in Film, TV and Theatre*. She is also involved with a number of civic and charitable organizations.

Ms. Moreno has served on The National Endowment for the Arts and as a Commissioner on The President's Commission on White House Fellowships. She has also served as a member of The President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities.

In June 2004, Ms. Moreno was awarded The Presidential Medal of Freedom by President George W. Bush. In 2007, Ms. Moreno was inducted into the California Hall of Fame by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. In 2010, she was awarded The National Medal of Arts by President Obama, as well as the Here I Stand Award for activism in the arts, and the Hispanic Organization of Latin Actresses (HOLA) Lifetime Achievement Award.

I am happy to honor Rita Moreno, during Hispanic Heritage Month, for her numerous contributions to the performing arts.

IN RECOGNITION OF MISS AUBURN TARA JONES

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to honor a special young lady in my district, Tara Jones, who is serving as Miss Auburn at Auburn University.

Miss Jones grew up in Kennesaw, Georgia and was crowned as Miss Auburn in February 2013. She ran her campaign on a platform for clean water for third-world nations and was elected to serve in this position by the student body. Tara also had fun with her campaign by doing the "Harlem Shake" to help spread her message. Jones is in her senior year.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating Tara Jones being named Miss Auburn. Her dedication to those less fortunate should be an example to us all, and I am honored today to help pay recognition to it.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, on October 8, 2013, I missed rollcall vote Nos. 531 and 532. I was organizing voters on immigration reform. Had I been present I would have voted "no" on both.

TRIBUTE TO DONALD G. "IKE" MCLEESE

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a tremendous leader in South Carolina's capital city as he prepares to step down as president and CEO of the Greater Columbia Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce. Donald G. "Ike" McLeese has led the Columbia Chamber for 19 years, and has done a remarkable job encouraging cooperation among business, civic, and governmental leaders. His service is greatly appreciated and will be sorely missed.

Ike McLeese is a native of Anderson, South Carolina and earned an associate's degree from Anderson University in 1964 and a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of South Carolina in 1967.

He began his career in the political arena working on the staff of the venerable U.S. Senator Fritz Hollings. I got to know Ike when we were both young men working for South Carolina Governor John West in the early 1970s. He was the governor's Commissioner of Narcotics and Controlled Substances, and was one of the youngest commissioners in the State's history, and I was the first African American to serve as an aide to a sitting South Carolina governor. We were idealists hoping to make our mark on the world, and I am pleased to say that Ike did just that.

As a government insider, his knowledge was in demand. After the West administration ended he served as vice president for Marketing and Government Relations for the architectural and engineering firm LBC&W. Ike then worked for two Columbia public relations firms: Cook & Ruef, Inc. and Newman Saylor & Gregory, and ran political campaigns locally and around the country.

In September 1994, he was tapped to lead the Greater Columbia Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce. At the time, the chamber was \$3.2 million in debt. He turned the organization around and made it a vital part of the capital city's power structure.

Ike played a key role in protecting Fort Jackson, McEntire Air National Guard Base and Shaw Air Force Base from the base realignment taking place in Congress, and instead helped those bases grow as other military installations were closing. He cites those

successes as his proudest professional accomplishments.

He has shared his expertise as a lecturer at the University of South Carolina's College of Journalism and Mass Communications and at the Strom Thurmond Institute of Government at Clemson University. He is also a recipient of the Order of the Palmetto, from two different governors, which is the highest civilian honor that can be awarded by the State of South Carolina.

Ike is married to the lovely Sue Smith Curran. They have a blended family of five children and four grandchildren. Having spent his entire career in Columbia, he is also a die-hard Southeastern Conference (SEC) sports fan.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in recognizing the extraordinary contributions of Ike McLeese. I, like so many others in the greater Columbia, South Carolina area, are proud to call him a friend. He has dedicated his career to serving this community and our state's capital is a much better place because of his service. I wish him well as he steps down from the chamber's helm, but know that his pride and passion of and for South Carolina and Columbia will allow him to continue being a powerful force in Columbia.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE RELATING TO CROP INSURANCE

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 11, 2013

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of this Sense of the House that the Durbin-Coburn amendment on crop insurance should be included in a farm bill conference report. This measure limits crop insurance premium subsidies for the wealthiest producers, saving more than \$900 million over ten years. The bipartisan amendment was adopted in the Senate by a 59–33 vote, and enjoys bipartisan House support as well. As we look to trim spending in all areas of the budget, limiting taxpayer handouts to farmers making over \$750,000 is a sensible place to start. Currently there are no limits to crop insurance premium subsidies or payments. This proposal doesn't eliminate assistance for those well-off producers, but simply limits it. In fact, I supported an amendment last June—offered by my colleague Congressman RON KIND—which would have shrunk taxpayer subsidies for crop insurance even further than the measure being considered today. I look forward to working with other Members of the House, and our colleagues in the Senate, to reform the nation's agriculture safety net in a way that provides security to our farmers while reducing the deficit.

INTRODUCTION OF H. RES. 327, EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THAT THE UNITED STATES SHOULD VOTE AGAINST CHINA REGAINING UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL (UNHRC) MEMBERSHIP AND ENCOURAGE OTHER MEMBERS TO VOTE AGAINST ITS ELECTION, AND ENCOURAGE ANOTHER MEMBER TO STAND FOR ELECTION AS AN ALTERNATE CANDIDATE FROM THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, I wish to make a few remarks regarding ongoing human rights and religious freedom abuses in China, and my related resolution, House Resolution 327.

China's suppression of its people's rights is an atrocious affair. With the recent change in leadership, some had held hope that there would be progress, but it seems that the new premier, Xi Jinping, has continued to take things in the other direction—suppression of religious and ethnic minorities is getting worse, the right to free speech is being eroded, and more people are being subjected to harsh treatment by their government.

China's claim that economic modernization would lead to increased protection of civil liberties has not proven true. Economic advances seem to come at the cost of those who are most vulnerable. Rather than securing liberty for its people, China has continued to vastly fund programs that serve to monitor and harass civilians.

There are many people who have been fighting to obtain for China the level of freedom we enjoy in the United States and other countries around the world. These are people who I believe many Americans identify with, because we can empathize with those who are beaten down in noble, selfless struggles for dignity and liberty.

Wang Bingzhang struggled to find a path towards freedom in China—a burden that I'm sure was overwhelming at times. His advocacy and his message ultimately cost him what he was fighting for—freedom. Dr. Wang was abducted in 2002, along with his colleagues, in Vietnam and taken back to China, where he faced a secret trial. In a one day trial, in which no evidence or witnesses were presented, Dr. Wang was sentenced to life imprisonment in solitary confinement on charges of espionage and terrorism. His physical and mental health has deteriorated to the point where continued imprisonment is inhumane. This case has begun to attract more international recognition.

Li Huanjun, whom I had the pleasure of meeting, was arrested on July 12, 2013, on "suspicion of gathering a crowd to disturb social order." Ms. Li is a housing rights activist who advocates against the forced evictions that are occurring in China. She lost her home in just this manner as community leaders decided to sell her home to developers without consulting her. Her arrest is worrying, because many of the people who are arrested for pro-

testing this kind of state action are subject to torture, beatings, and harsh sentences for alleged crimes. She is a mother whose fate is yet to be seen.

Though the previous two activists are not mentioned in the legislation, they are both activists for whom I have advocated. The specific cases and people mentioned in the legislation are equally important. The persecution of individuals and entire groups of people in China is staggering, and much of this abuse is covered in H. Res. 327.

Uyghurs in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region are facing increased pressure and persecution from Beijing. Hundreds of people have also been arrested in Xinjiang for spreading "online rumors," and for expressing dissatisfaction with the Chinese government. Chinese authorities claim that they grant wide-ranging freedoms to people in this region, but religious persecution, suppression of dissent, and monitoring and harassment prove otherwise.

Mongolians continue to face harsh government oppression, as well. An example is Mr. Hada, who served a 15 year prison sentence for "subversion," who continues to face detention after his release from prison, and whose wife and son have recently "disappeared". Dissidents are not the only ones who face persecution—their families are often targeted by authorities, as well. Inner Mongolia continues to struggle to keep a grasp on their culture and language while Beijing attempts to erode it. As a result of Chinese expansion into Inner Mongolia, the land and ecosystem is deteriorating—the Mongolian culture and way of life is in danger of deteriorating with it.

The oppression of Tibetans has caused concern around the world. In acts of desperation, many Tibetan monks have self-immolated. They want greater religious freedom, and the return from exile of Tibetan spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama. But, Beijing continues to maintain strict control over the Tibetan Autonomous Region, even going as far as maintaining police presence in monasteries. Tenzin Delek Rinpoche, who was sentenced to death in 2002, along with his assistant who was almost immediately executed, but had his sentence commuted to life imprisonment after human rights groups and experts claimed he did not receive a fair trial and that he faced harsh treatment in detention.

Falun Gong practitioners have also faced serious persecution from Chinese authorities. China's efforts to eradicate this religion can be particularly severe. Long imprisonment, torture, and inhumane treatment of practitioners can often lead to death. The adherence to a belief system in China, like Falun Gong, is often a dangerous attribute. Many Falun Gong practitioners are often subject to the China's "Reeducation Through Labor" program, black prisons, and arbitrary detention. Hundreds of thousands of people are sentenced to serve time in these "Reeducation Through Labor" prisons.

The list of human rights abuses, violations, and religious and ethnic persecution is almost innumerable. During China's previous membership on the Council, they greatly expanded their "Weiwen" program, used to monitor and harass civilians. This program is currently being funded at higher levels than their national defense budget. Many of the most famous cases of violations occurred while China sat as a member on the Council. Liu Xiaobo

was arrested in 2009 on charges of "inciting subversion of state power," and was sentenced to 11 years in prison. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2010, making him the only Nobel Peace Prize winner in prison. His wife, Liu Xia, continues to face harassment is currently under house arrest.

For these reasons, the United States government and our representative in the United Nations should vote against China regaining membership on the United Nations Human Rights Council. This Council was designed to help protect people from the kinds of persecution that they suffer at the hands of the Chinese government. The effort to keep China off of the Council has a strong coalition, including Tibetans, Uyghurs, Mongols, Han Chinese, Christians, Muslims, and Falun Gong, along with many human rights lawyers and advocates.

I would urge my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join in this effort by cosponsoring H. Res. 327 to keep China off of the United Nations Human Rights Council and encourage another suitably qualified member from the Asia-Pacific region to stand for election as an alternate candidate.

IN HONOR OF NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, once again, this year, we observe National Hispanic Heritage Month from September 1 to October 15 and celebrate the rich history, culture and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America. The observation began in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan twenty years later as a month-long celebration and enacted into law August 17, 1988. Our leaders, then and now, recognize this nation was founded and built through the hard work and sacrifices of immigrants from around the world and so we honor Hispanic-Americans whose past and future contributions have added to the strength and endurance of American society. The shared goal of a prosperous, greater America is further enhanced by their ongoing participation and recognized during National Hispanic Heritage Month.

SUPPORT OF FARMINGTON AREA REPUBLICANS

HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Farmington Area Republicans of Michigan, who like so many organizations throughout our country have diligently educated our citizens on various public issues facing us today. Exercising their Constitutional right to peacefully assemble and in many cases petition their government for a redress

of grievances in support of the restoration of liberty, not in restricting it; shrinking our bloated government, not expanding it; who want to reduce taxes, not raise them; abolish costly government programs, not create them; expose the abuses and oppressions of tyrannical dictates; and promote the freedom and independence of our citizens, not the interference of government in their lives; and observe the limited, enumerated powers of our Constitution, not ignore them.

Mr. Speaker, these truly American patriots of every cultural, religious and ethnic background have found a common cause in fighting back today's proliferating big government rules and regulations imposed by costly bloated government bureaucracies who are accountable to no one at the expense of individual rights.

They are God-fearing, freedom-loving Americans who desire nothing more than to rein in big government's tendency toward excessive coercion and the insidious spread of government overreach. They question when the validity of laws and morality contradict each other. They desire nothing more than the extension of individual freedom in a Democracy that attaches all possible value to citizens rather than making each citizen a mere agent, a mere number; a Democracy that seeks equality in Liberty rather than in restraint and servitude.

Mr. Speaker, there is a great political awakening taking place in our country today. The roots of which are solid stock and American made, they are visionary individuals who understand the moral foundations of a Constitutional Republic, the benefits of free markets, and individual liberty. May they continue to strive valiantly and dare greatly.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few short minutes to give this testimony in support of a truly American organization.

HONORING JAY KAPITZ

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize Jay Kapitz, who will be honored by the Los Angeles Democratic Party as a 2013 Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt Democrat of the Year.

Jay is a community activist who possesses a vested interest in the social, economic and political well-being of Ventura County. He has always gone above the call of duty to explain the political nuances that will impact our community.

His insight and knowledge about the political process are invaluable. As a community volunteer, member of the Ventura County Democratic Party Communications Committee, and Election Strategy Chair of the Democratic Club of the Conejo Valley, Jay is a committed advocate of progressive issues and has long supported the priorities of the Democratic Party.

Jay has always taken his passion, charisma, and expertise in political organizing into the community. As a champion for environmental sustainability, he was involved in raising awareness over the Santa Susana Field Laboratory superfund site clean-up and Ventura County's Save Open-Space and Agricultural

Resources (SOAR) initiative in the Conejo Valley. He is dedicated to the protection of open space and stands against further development of the hillsides around Oak Park, the Conejo Valley and all of Ventura County.

For being an exemplary grassroots activist who is consistently on the frontline for Democratic candidates and important statewide propositions, I extend my sincere congratulations and join the Los Angeles Democratic Party in honoring Jay Kapitz.

SUPPORT OF THE WESTERN WASHTENAW TEA PARTY

HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Western Washtenaw Tea Party of Michigan, who like so many grassroots organizations throughout our country have diligently educated our citizens on various public issues facing us today. Exercising their Constitutional right to peacefully assemble and in many cases petition their government for a redress of grievances in support of the restoration of liberty, not in restricting it; shrinking our bloated government, not expanding it; who want to reduce taxes, not raise them; abolish costly government programs, not create them; expose the abuses and oppressions of tyrannical dictates; and promote the freedom and independence of our citizens, not the interference of government in their lives; and observe the limited, enumerated powers of our Constitution, not ignore them.

Mr. Speaker, these truly American patriots of every cultural, religious and ethnic background have found a common cause in fighting back today's proliferating big government rules and regulations imposed by costly bloated government bureaucracies who are accountable to no one at the expense of individual rights.

They are God-fearing, freedom-loving Americans who desire nothing more than to rein in big government's tendency toward excessive coercion and the insidious spread of government overreach. They question when the validity of laws and morality contradict each other. They desire nothing more than the extension of individual freedom in a Democracy that attaches all possible value to citizens rather than making each citizen a mere agent, a mere number; a Democracy that seeks equality in Liberty rather than in restraint and servitude.

Mr. Speaker, there is a great political awakening taking place in our country today. The roots of which are solid stock and American made, they are visionary individuals who understand the moral foundations of a Constitutional Republic, the benefits of free markets, and individual liberty. May they continue to strive valiantly and dare greatly.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few short minutes to give this testimony in support of a truly American grassroots organization.

TRIBUTE TO PEYTON ROBERTSON

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Peyton Robertson, who is America's 2013 Top Young Scientist in the "Discovery Education 3M Young Scientist Challenge."

Peyton, a 5th grade student, created an innovative sandbag designed that is reusable and easy to transport. After seeing the destruction caused by Hurricane Sandy and from experiencing hurricanes in South Florida, Peyton wanted to help protect folks in Florida.

This is not the first time that Peyton has worked to improve the lives of those around him with inventions. When he discovered that the golf balls he loved to hit didn't go as far when they were cold, he created a golf ball warmer. Peyton also invented retractable training wheels to help his sister learn how to ride a bike. When he grows up, Peyton would like to be an inventor, scientist, or engineer.

Peyton, congratulations again on being named America's Top Young Scientist for 2013. Your innovative spirit and desire to improve the world is an inspiration to us all!

SUPPORT OF THE WAYNE COUNTY
CAMPAIGN FOR LIBERTY**HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Wayne County Campaign for Liberty of the Great State of Michigan who like so many grassroots organizations throughout our country have diligently educated our citizens on various public issues facing us today. Exercising their Constitutional right to peacefully assemble and in many cases petition their government for a redress of grievances in support of the restoration of liberty, not in restricting it; shrinking our bloated government, not expanding it; who want to reduce taxes, not raise them; abolish costly government programs, not create them; expose the abuses and oppressions of tyrannical dictates; Wayne County's Campaign for Liberty promote the freedom and independence of our citizens, not the interference of government in their lives; and observe the limited, enumerated powers of our Constitution, not ignore them.

Mr. Speaker, these truly American patriots of every cultural, religious and ethnic background have found a common cause in fighting back today's proliferating big government rules and regulations imposed by costly bloated government bureaucracies who are accountable to no one at the expense of individual rights.

They are God-fearing, freedom-loving Americans who desire nothing more than to rein in big government's tendency toward excessive coercion and the insidious spread of government overreach. They question when the validity of laws and morality contradict each other. They desire nothing more than the extension of individual freedom in a Constitu-

tional Republic that attaches all possible value to citizens rather than making each citizen a mere agent, a mere number of the state; a Constitutional Republic that seeks equality in Liberty rather than in restraint and servitude.

Mr. Speaker, there is a great political awakening taking place in our country today. The roots of which are solid stock and American made, they are a visionary group of individuals who understand the moral foundations of a Constitutional Republic, the benefits of free markets, and the Blessings of individual liberty. May they continue to strive valiantly and dare greatly.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few short minutes to give this testimony in support of a truly American grassroots organization.

IN HONOR OF U.S. DISTRICT
JUDGE RICHARD A. SCHELL**HON. RALPH M. HALL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, this year marks the 25th year that United States District Judge Richard A. Schell has served with distinction on the Federal bench of the Eastern District of Texas. It is a privilege to recognize and pay tribute to him, along with members of the Eastern District of Texas Bar Association who will honor him at their 17th Annual Eastern District Bench Bar Conference October 30, November 1 in Plano, Texas.

Judge Schell was nominated by President Ronald Reagan on April 13, 1988, to a seat vacated by the late Judge William M. Steger. He was confirmed by the Senate on May 27, 1988, and received his commission on June 6, 1988. Judge Schell served as Chief Judge of the Eastern District from 1994 2001 and also served on the U.S. Judicial Conference Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules as well as the Board of the Federal Judges Association. During his tenure as Chief Judge he also supported the effort to create the Eastern District of Texas Bar Association, which today is recognized as one of the preeminent Federal bar associations in the United States.

A native Texan, Judge Schell was raised in a family whose community involvement in Plano, Texas, stretches back over 130 years. His maternal great-grandfather served as mayor of Plano, and his paternal grandfather was the longest serving mayor in the City's history, serving more than 16 years. His father was the longest appointed official in Plano's history, serving as its representative on the North Texas Municipal Water District for 45 years.

Judge Schell received his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Southern Methodist University in 1972 and his Juris Doctorate from SMU's School of Law in 1975. He served as an instructor at the Law School from 1975-1976, then became Assistant District Attorney for Collin County in 1976. He practiced law in the private sector in McKinney from 1977-1982, then returned to public service as Judge, Collin County Court-at-Law, from 1982-1986. From 1986-1988 he presided as Judge of Collin County's 219th District Court before assuming the bench as U.S. District Judge. Since 2010 he also has served as a Visiting

Professor at SMU's Dedman School of Law, which awarded him the Distinguished Alumni Award for Judicial Service in 2005. His law clerks and staff have established a programmatic endowment at the law school in his honor.

During his tenure on the bench, Judge Schell presided over the Norplant MDL, several complex civil matters and a number of environmental issues. He is currently responsible for the continued oversight and enforcement of a consent decree that resolved a class action between the State of Texas and children who receive Medicaid benefits. As Resident Judge in Plano with a higher-than-average docket, Judge Schell spent 683 hours in the courtroom in the past year alone. This is 247 percent above the circuit median and 243 percent above the circuit average. Judge Schell is universally recognized for his excellent judicial temperament, work ethic, integrity, and fairness.

Judge Schell has the support of a wonderful family—his wife, Janice, and sons Christopher and Ben. Christopher serves as the Legislative Director in my Washington, DC office, while attending law school in the evening at American University. Ben previously worked on the Space Subcommittee of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology during my tenure as Chairman.

Mr. Speaker, our Nation is fortunate to have a Judge with as much integrity and commitment to justice as Judge Schell possesses. I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this outstanding American and esteemed United States District Judge, Richard A. Schell, for his 25 years of distinguished service on behalf of our Nation.

SUPPORT OF THE OAKLAND
COUNTY CAMPAIGN FOR LIBERTY**HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Oakland County Campaign for Liberty of the Great State of Michigan who like so many grassroots organizations throughout our country have diligently educated our citizens on various public issues facing us today. Exercising their Constitutional right to peacefully assemble and in many cases petition their government for a redress of grievances in support of the restoration of liberty, not in restricting it; shrinking our bloated government, not expanding it; who want to reduce taxes, not raise them; abolish costly government programs, not create them; expose the abuses and oppressions of tyrannical dictates; Oakland County's Campaign for Liberty promote the freedom and independence of our citizens, not the interference of government in their lives; and observe the limited, enumerated powers of our Constitution, not ignore them.

Mr. Speaker, these truly American patriots of every cultural, religious and ethnic background have found a common cause in fighting back today's proliferating big government rules and regulations imposed by costly bloated government bureaucracies who are accountable to no one at the expense of individual rights.

They are God-fearing, freedom-loving Americans who desire nothing more than to rein in big government's tendency toward excessive coercion and the insidious spread of government overreach. They question when the validity of laws and morality contradict each other. They desire nothing more than the extension of individual freedom in a Constitutional Republic that attaches all possible value to citizens rather than making each citizen a mere agent, a mere number of the state; a Constitutional Republic that seeks equality in Liberty rather than in restraint and servitude.

Mr. Speaker, there is a great political awakening taking place in our country today. The roots of which are solid stock and American made, they are a visionary group of individuals who understand the moral foundations of a Constitutional Republic, the benefits of free markets, and the Blessings of individual liberty. May they continue to strive valiantly and dare greatly.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few short minutes to give this testimony in support of a truly American grassroots organization.

GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the sixteenth day of the federal government shutdown to submit for the record a satire sent to me by my constituent, Donna Rusinski of Huntington New York. Donna's satire perfectly portrays the current state of affairs in our nation's capital and I am pleased I can share her short story with you today.

So, imagine that the company you work for held a poll, and asked everyone if they thought it would be a good idea to put a soda machine in the break room. The poll came back, and the majority of your colleagues said "Yes," indicating that they would like a soda machine. Some said no, but the majority said yes. So, a week later, there's a soda machine.

Now imagine that Bill in accounting voted against the soda machine. He has a strong hatred for caffeinated soft drinks, thinks they are bad for you, whatever. He campaigns throughout the office to get the machine removed.

Well, management decides "OK, we'll ask again" and again, the majority of people say "Yes, let's keep the soda machine."

Bill continues to campaign, and management continues to ask the employees, and every time, the answer is in favor of the soda machine. This happens, let's say 35 times. Eventually, Bill says "OK, I'm not processing payroll anymore until the soday machine is removed," so nobody will get paid unless management removes the machine.

What should we do?

Answer: Fire Bill and get someone who will do the darn job.

Bonus: Bill tells everyone that he was willing to "Negotiate," to come to a solution where everyone got their payroll checks, but only so long as that negotiation capitulated to his demand to remove the soda machine.

Bill is a dope.

BRIGHTON TEA PARTY OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Brighton Tea Party of Livingston County, Michigan, who like so many grassroots organizations throughout our country have diligently educated our citizens on various public issues facing us today. Exercising their constitutional right to peacefully assemble and in many cases petition their government for a redress of grievances in support of the restoration of liberty, not in restricting it; shrinking our bloated government, not expanding it; who want to reduce taxes, not raise them; abolish costly government programs, not create them; expose the abuses and oppressions of tyrannical dictates; and promote the freedom and independence of our citizens, not the interference of government in their lives; and observe the limited, enumerated powers of our Constitution, not ignore them.

Mr. Speaker, these truly American patriots of every cultural, religious, and ethnic background have found a common cause in fighting back today's proliferating big government rules and regulations imposed by costly bloated government bureaucracies who are accountable to no one at the expense of individual rights.

They are God-fearing, freedom-loving Americans who desire nothing more than to rein in big government's tendency toward excessive coercion and the insidious spread of government overreach. They question when the validity of laws and morality contradict each other. They desire nothing more than the extension of individual freedom in a democracy that attaches all possible value to citizens rather than making each citizen a mere agent, a mere number; a democracy that seeks equality in liberty rather than in restraint and servitude.

Mr. Speaker, there is a great political awakening taking place in our country today. The roots of which are solid stock and American made, they are visionary individuals who understand the moral foundations of a constitutional republic, the benefits of free markets, and individual liberty. May they continue to strive valiantly and dare greatly.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me to give this testimony in support of a truly American grassroots organization.

IN TRIBUTE TO JOHN W. OLSEN

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to pay tribute to a friend, a leader, and a living legend in Connecticut politics and the labor movement, John W. Olsen. After 25 years at the helm of the Connecticut AFL-CIO, John retired as President on September 25. John leaves a deep and enduring mark on the State of Connecticut after a quarter century of extraordinary leadership and dedication.

A plumber by trade, John joined the Plumbers and Pipefitters union 44 years ago. He

served as President of the United Association of Plumbers, Pipefitters and Steamfitters, Local 133, and a former Secretary-Treasurer of the Connecticut State Building and Construction Trades Council.

In 1988, at the age of 38, John was elected President of the Connecticut AFL-CIO, representing 220,000 union members across the state. His 25 years as President of the AFL-CIO represents the longest tenure in the federation's history.

John provided the leading public voice for organized labor for 25 years. He also presided over—and kept united—a diverse union umbrella in Connecticut. During an era where friction grew nationally between industrial and service unions and ruptured decades-old alliances, John's assiduous and fair leadership kept Connecticut's unions unified and strong and maintained labor's collective potency to advocate on behalf of working families in our state.

In the political arena, John has been a force on the national, state, and local level for four decades. He pulled an upset to win a contest to become Chairman of the State Democratic Party from 2000 to 2002. He served as a member of the Democratic State Central Committee from 1982 to 1995, as Co-Chair of the State Central Platform Committee, and on the Democratic National Committee since 1996. Even in the Town of Clinton in my Congressional District, John served one term as Chair and one as Treasurer and on his hometown Democratic Town Committee.

I will always be grateful for John's support and counsel for my three campaigns as a challenger, in unsuccessful efforts for Lieutenant Governor and the U.S. House in 1998 and 2002, respectively, and for my successful effort for the House in 2006. John loved an underdog, and there was never a more fierce or loyal ally to have at your side for a political fight.

John's remarkable legacy at the center of Connecticut's political and policy debate for a quarter of century is a story of keen instincts, dogged determination, and ardent honesty. John's fidelity was never to his ego or personal standing but always to the cause and a positive outcome. His service will be missed, but I have no doubts that he will be as active in his "retirement" as he was during his sterling career.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me, my colleagues in the Connecticut delegation, John's wife Janeen, three children, Amy, Elizabeth and Christopher, and grandson, Hunter, to honor a true Connecticut patriot, John Olsen.

SUPPORT OF THE RIVER CITY PATRIOTS OF GRAND RAPIDS

HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the River City Patriots of Grand Rapids, Michigan who like so many grassroots organizations throughout our country have diligently educated our citizens on various public issues facing us today. Exercising their Constitutional right to peacefully assemble and in many cases petition their government for a

redress of grievances in support of the restoration of liberty, not in restricting it; shrinking our bloated government, not expanding it; who want to reduce taxes, not raise them; abolish costly government programs, not create them; expose the abuses and oppressions of tyrannical dictates; River City Patriots promote the freedom and independence of our citizens, not the interference of government in their lives; and observe the limited, enumerated powers of our Constitution, not ignore them.

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Mr. Speaker, there is a great political awakening taking place in our country today. The roots of which are solid stock and American made, they are visionary individuals who understand the moral foundations of a Constitutional Republic, the benefits of free markets, and the Blessings individual liberty. May they continue to strive valiantly and dare greatly.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few short minutes to give this testimony in support of a truly American grassroots organization.

HONORING LORI DEMERSSEMAN

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Ms. BROWNLEY. Mr. Speaker, Today, I rise to recognize Lori DeMersseman, who will be honored by the Los Angeles Democratic Party as a 2013 Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt Democrat of the Year.

Lori is a political leader whose tireless efforts can be seen in her important contribution to our community. As a founder and the current President of the Democratic Singles of Ventura County, Lori created an organization for like-minded individuals who are passionate about the economic, social and environmental issues facing our nation. The DSVC is a welcoming club for individuals to volunteer and socialize with other Democrats while participating in the political process.

Lori has always been engaged in improving our community. She is a committed advocate for equality and has long supported the priorities of the Democratic Party.

For being an exemplary grassroots activist who is consistently helping Democratic candidates and important statewide propositions, I extend my sincere congratulations and join the Los Angeles Democratic Party in honoring Lori DeMersseman.

SUPPORT OF BLOOMFIELD REPUBLICAN WOMEN'S CLUB

HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Bloomfield Republican Women's Club of Michigan, who like so many grassroot organizations throughout our country have diligently educated our citizens on various public issues facing us today. Exercising their Constitutional right to peacefully assemble and in many cases petition their government for a redress of grievances in support of the restoration of liberty, not in restricting it; shrinking our bloated government, not expanding it; who want to reduce taxes, not raise them; abolish costly government programs, not create them; expose the abuses and oppressions of tyrannical dictates; and promote the freedom and independence of our citizens, not the interference of government in their lives; and observe the limited, enumerated powers of our Constitution, not ignore them.

Mr. Speaker, these truly American patriots of every cultural, religious and ethnic background have found a common cause in fighting back today's proliferating big government rules and regulations imposed by costly bloated government bureaucracies who are accountable to no one at the expense of individual rights.

They are God-fearing, freedom-loving Americans who desire nothing more than to rein in big government's tendency toward excessive coercion and the insidious spread of government overreach. They question when the validity of laws and morality contradict each other. They desire nothing more than the extension of individual freedom in a Constitutional Republic that attaches all possible value to citizens rather than making each citizen a mere agent, a mere number; a Constitutional Republic that seeks equality in Liberty rather than in restraint and servitude.

Mr. Speaker, there is a great political awakening taking place in our country today. The roots of which are solid stock and American made, they are visionary individuals who understand the moral foundations of a Constitutional Republic, the benefits of free markets, and individual liberty. May they continue to strive valiantly and dare greatly.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few short minutes to give this testimony in support of a truly American organization.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF LORIE GRINNAN

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a dear friend of mine, Lorie Grinnan, on her retirement as the County Commissioner of Precinct 2 in Rockwall County. Lorie has served as Commissioner for eight years, and was the first woman to be re-elected to that position. During that time, she has been dedicated to serving the community of Rockwall, TX.

I have known Lorie for many years, and her commitment to implementing sound policies that benefit the citizens of Rockwall County is unparalleled. She has served in public office for 17 years, and during that time has undertaken many projects from transportation to emergency services.

Besides serving as County Commissioner, Lorie was also a member of the Rockwall Independent School District Board for nine years, and served as a member of the Juvenile Services Board as Commissioner and school board member. She also currently presides as the president of the Emergency Services Board. In addition to her roles as a public servant, she is a member of many community organizations including the Rockwall Noon Rotary, First United Methodist Church, Chamber of Congress, and city councils of Rockwall, Heath, Rowlett, and McLendon-Chisolm.

Some of her active projects as County Commissioner include a \$100 million road bond, infrastructure improvements to various roads in the area, and work to maintain quick ambulance response time despite construction.

Among one of her greatest undertakings was spearheading the Veterans Advisory Committee to help oversee the construction of the Veterans Memorial. Over 2,000 citizens attended the opening ceremony which was held on November 11, 2011.

Commissioner Grinnan, as well as her husband Jeff, and their two children Nicholas and Kimberley, all attended Texas A&M University. Kimberley is also seeking a law degree from Texas Tech University.

Upon her retirement, Lorie will leave behind a distinguished legacy and her influence will be felt throughout Rockwall County for many years to come. I ask my colleagues to join me today in congratulating Lorie Grinnan, and wishing her the best of luck on her future opportunities.

SUPPORT OF THE BIRMINGHAM REPUBLICAN WOMEN'S CLUB

HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few short minutes to give this testimony in support of a truly American organization.

HONORING MY FRIEND AND HERO,
MRS. JEAN CLELAND

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend and hero, Mrs. Jean Cleland, who passed away on September 9th, 2013. Jean Cleland was the happiest, most gallant and giving hands-on social justice advocate I have encountered. Jean was committed to all aspects of her life from advocating for social justice, to her family, and her faith.

She was a devoted and loving wife, mother and grandmother to her 6 children and 3 grandchildren. The Cleland home was open to all the neighborhood children where they enjoyed playing on a zip line 30 years ago and had frequent backyard barbecues. She and her husband Robert refused to get a television in their home until the mid-60's because they felt time was better spend reading, playing and enjoying family time together. Jean and Bob were happily married for 65 years at the time of his death in 2010.

A role model and friend, Jean worked at the North Shore Senior Center as a Case Manager and Director of Community Education for 35 years, until early 2013. In the '50's and '60's Jean became one of the founders of the Wilmette Human Relations Committee and the North Shore Summer Project. Those programs were essential for ending north suburban housing discrimination. The North Shore Summer Project organized Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s 1965 speech on the Winnetka Village Green, and Jean had the honor of pinning an "Equal Housing" button on Dr. King's lapel the day he gave that famous speech to more than 8,000 people. Jean often said it was the highlight of her life.

As a strong and independent family, Jean and Robert belonged to Wilmette's First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, for 54 years. They were leaders in opposing the Vietnam War and the Iraq War, and persistent voices for peace and nuclear disarmament. Jean was a firm believer in justice and the notion that justice is intentional; she once said that "Justice doesn't happen accidentally, it takes hard work and strong beliefs."

Jean was the Chair of the Wilmette Housing Commission and effectively advocated for three low-income senior buildings in the village. Jean concentrated her volunteer efforts around open housing for more than 60 years. Jean was also a founding board member of the North Shore Interfaith Council, now called Open Communities and served on its board for over 30 years.

A committed and hard working citizen, Jean not only gave back to her community, she served as a powerful and compassionate advocate beyond its borders. I am honored to call her a dear friend and to be among the legions of people, young and old, who relied on her as a role model and example for living a meaningful and giving life. Her work has made this world a better place for countless people, and her name will live on in the hearts and minds of those she helped. May she Rest in Peace.

A TRIBUTE TO ALVISO ADOBE
COMMUNITY PARK

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the fifth anniversary of the opening of Alviso Adobe Community Park in Pleasanton, California.

A collaborative historical project between the City of Pleasanton and the Museum on Main, Alviso Adobe Community Park is home to the Alviso Adobe, the first adobe building in the Amador Valley and a California Historical Landmark.

The park serves as a valuable resource for students and visitors interested in the economic, social and political life in California from the establishment of the Bear Flag Republic, through the Mexican-American War, the Gold Rush, and the granting of statehood.

A re-creation of the historic Meadowlark Dairy milking barn and bunk house now features indoor interpretive displays that tell the story of California from its earliest Native American beginnings.

Demonstration areas give visitors a hands-on experience in the activities of the past, such as making adobe bricks, ice cream, and learning how plants were used by the Ohlone people. The park grounds also have been carefully landscaped with native plants and fruit and nut trees amidst ancient Heritage oak trees and a seasonal creek.

I again join with the community of Pleasanton in congratulating Alviso Adobe Community Park on five years of celebrating our rich history. I look forward to the park serving as a valuable education resource for many more years to come.

THE BIRMINGHAM BLOOMFIELD
REPUBLICAN CLUB

HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO

OF MICHIGAN

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